

BOOK REVIEWS

Non-Surgical Drainage of the Gall-Tract. A treatise concerned with the diagnosis and treatment of certain diseases of the biliary and allied systems, in their relation to gastro-enterology and general clinical medicine. By B. B. Vincent Lyon, M. D. 640 pages. Illustrated. Philadelphia and New York: Lea & Febiger. 1923. Price, \$10.

Although this volume of 623 pages is entitled the non-surgical drainage of the gall-tract, the author states in his preface that he has two major purposes, the first to present to the medical profession in more complete form the diagnostic and therapeutic value of non-surgical drainage of the biliary system, etc., and the second to present the author's plan of a systematic and practical method of studying the gastro-intestinal tract as a whole. He then proceeds at great length and in great detail to accomplish his major purpose, with here and there a pause for the development of some minor purpose, such as a six or seven-page discussion of Giardiasis infection.

Approximately 150 pages are devoted to the diagnostic and therapeutic uses of non-surgical drainage of the gall-tract, with an additional 123 pages of illustrative case histories.

There can be no question but that this procedure has a definite place in the study and treatment of biliary tract disease, but it remains for the future to determine its exact value. From the diagnostic standpoint, the procedure requires extreme care and attention to detail, as emphasized by the author, but even then I fear the findings, especially the bacteriologic, may be misleading.

The remainder of the book is devoted to chapters on the embryology, anatomy, histology, and physiology of the biliary system and to various chapters dealing with methods of study and treatment of gastro-intestinal condition in general and biliary-tract conditions in particular.

The whole subject matter is well presented, but I believe would have been of greater service if the author had kept strictly to the first of his major purposes, reserving the second for a separate volume. W. W. B.

A Manual of Proctology. By T. Chittenden Hill. 279 Pages. Illustrated. Philadelphia and New York: Lea & Febiger. 1923. Price \$3.25.

A short practical compendium, containing considerable information and considerable misinformation. Some of its statements are founded on hearsay evidence accepted by the author with too little inquiry. However, the book tells what to do and how to do it in a simple and readable way, so that it will probably find a large audience. L. E.

Alcohol and Prohibition, In Their Relation to Civilization and the Art of Living. By Victor G. Vecki, M. D. Philadelphia and London: J. B. Lippincott Company.

This book ought to have a wide circulation; certainly every physician ought to read it, and other citizens will find much in it to think about. Not all physicians will agree with everything that Vecki says, but they certainly will give him credit for an honest expression of opinions, presented in an interesting and attractive manner. W. E. M.

The Tonsils—Faucial, lingual, and pharyngeal. With some account of the posterior and lateral pharyngeal nodules. By Harry A. Barnes, M. D. Second edition, 217 pages. Illustrated. St. Louis: C. V. Mosby Co. 1923. Price \$5.

This is a well-edited, readable book. The chapters

on histology and pathology are excellent and much the strongest. The chapters on surgery are not of the same high standard and all will not agree with the author's views on the relative merits of local and general anesthesia, methods of inducing local anesthesia, position of patient during operation, and methods of controlling post-operative hemorrhage.

A Primer for Diabetic Patients. A brief outline of diabetic treatment including directions for the use of insulin, sample menus, recipes, and food tables. By Russel M. Wilder, M. D., Mary A. Foley, Dietician, and Daisy Ellithorpe, Dietician. Second edition, 119 pages. Philadelphia: W. B. Saunders Co. 1923.

An excellent little manual. It tells the patient exactly what he should know. He has a homely way of putting information that is peculiar to the Mayos. It is equally well suited to a diabetic college professor or a diabetic Minnesota farmer. L. E.

BOOKS RECEIVED

Alcohol and Prohibition in their Relation to Civilization and the Art of Living. By Victor G. Vecki, M. D., San Francisco. Philadelphia and London: J. B. Lippincott Co.

Collected Reprints, from the George Williams Hooper Foundation for Medical Research. The Department of Medical Research of the University of California Medical School, San Francisco. Volume VII, 1922-1923.

Hygiene and Public Health. By Louis C. Parkes, M. D., Consulting Sanitary Adviser to H. M. Office of Works, Fellow of the Royal Sanitary Institute, and Henry R. Kenwood, C. M. G., M. B., Chadwick Professor of Hygiene in the University of London. Seventh edition with illustrations. Philadelphia: P. Blakiston's Son & Co., 1923.

Mental Disorders, an Introduction to the Study of. By Francis M. Barnes, Jr., M. D., Associate Professor of Nervous and Mental Diseases in the St. Louis University Medical School, etc. Second Edition. St. Louis: C. V. Mosby Co., 1923.

Diagnostic Methods. A guide for history taking, making of routine physician examinations and the usual laboratory tests necessary for students in clinical pathology, hospital internes and practicing physicians. By Herbert Thomas Brooks, M. D., Professor of Clinical Medicine, College of Medical Evangelists, Los Angeles, formerly Professor of Pathology, College of Medicine, University of Tennessee. Fourth edition, with fifty-two illustrations. St. Louis: C. V. Mosby Co., 1923.

Modern Aspects of the Circulation in Health and Disease. By Carl J. Wiggers, M. D., Professor of Physiology in the School of Medicine of Western Reserve University, Cleveland Ohio. Second edition, thoroughly revised. Illustrated with 204 engravings. Lea & Febiger, Philadelphia and New York, 1923.

A Treatise on Orthopaedic Surgery. By Royal Whitman, M. D., Surgeon to the Hospital for Ruptured and Crippled; Consulting Orthopaedic Surgeon to the Hospital of St. John's Guild, etc., seventh edition thoroughly revised. Illustrated with 877 engravings. Lea & Febiger, Philadelphia and New York, 1923.

Local Anaesthesia Methods and Results in Abdominal Surgery. By Hans Finsterer, Surgeon-in-Chief, Vienna Hospital of the Brothers of Charity,